phases. along Indo-Bangladesh border, 2506 km. of fencing has been completed as on 31.7.2007.

(b) and (c) Shortfalls are attributable to difficulties due to presence of habitation within 150 yards from the international border, delay in land acquisition in some areas and difficult topographical conditions. The feasible length is likely to be completed by the year 2008-09.

(d) and (e) The Government has made adequate provisions for maintenance of fencing which primarily get damaged due to adverse climatic conditions, water logging, floods, etc. The Government has also decided to replace and upgrade the entire fence constructed under Phase-I along Indo-Bangladesh border with a modified design.

Survey on Indian languages

*226. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to conduct a survey on Indian languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when such last survey was conducted and what are its statistics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (c) The First Linguistic Survey of India (LSI) was conducted by Sir George A. Grierson, an Irish philologist during 1898-1927 in the pre-independence period. The Survey results were published in 11 volumes and 19 parts establishing 544 dialects and 179 languages at that point of time. The LSI established for the first time six families of which these languages/dialects were affiliated in the undivided India. However, it (LSI) did not cover the Southern parts of India.

The classification provided by LSI has been the basis for presentation of data on mother tongues/languages returned at each of the censuses even in the post-independence India. However, the affiliation of some of the languages in the classification has undergone a change based on subsequent investigations and research.

Since LSI of Sir George A. Grierson has limitations arising out of the approach adopted then and since new tools, techniques and survey instruments for analysis and description of language have become available, the Government proposes to launch a New Linguistic Survey of India (NLSI). The NLSI project will be of 10 years duration and envisages an expenditure of more than Rs. 500 crores. For the Eleventh Plan, an expenditure of Rs. 280 crores is envisaged.

Labour rights of women workers

*227. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to ensure the labour rights of women working in the unorganised sector;